

The Botany Bay Scheme

CHRONOLOGY

Events concerning its adoption & execution

- 1710 First Land Enclosure Acts encourage consolidation of farms
- 1717 British Act on felonies leads to transportation to American colonies
- 1733 Flying shuttle invented by John Kay for weaving loom
- 1754 Carding machine speeds up fibre separation
- 1760 King George III becomes British monarch
- 1760 Over 40% of Norfolk lands enclosed & tenant farmers ejected
- 1760 Very high unemployment of rural workers and farmers
- 1765 Spinning Jenny revolutionizes thread production
- 1770 James Cook on the *Endeavour* explores southern oceans
- 1774 Steam Engines invented by Matthew Boulton and James Watt
- 1775 Convict transportation to colonies halted by American Revolution
- 1776 Hulks Act designates decommissioned ships as floating prisons
- 1779 Hulks hold 526 of the total of 4379 prisoners in England and Wales
- 1779** **Government Committee** created to decide on future transportation
- 1780 Water Frame invented by William Arkwright
- 1783 Anti-slave movement formed in England
- 1783-86 Govt Committee investigates Senegal, African Gold Coast & N.S.W.
- 1783 Aug James Matra proposes that American Loyalists settle in New Holland
- 1784 Mar Matra modifies proposal to include transported convicts
- 1785 May Matra and Banks support Botany Bay; committee still prefers Africa
- 1786 Five hulks in London, Portsmouth and Plymouth hold 1240 prisoners
- 1786 Mar Riots break out on hulks; 44 convicts are shot, 8 dead
- 1786 Aug Lord Sydney announces convicts will be transported to Botany Bay
- 1786 Sep Botany Bay Scheme reported in *White Hall Evening Post*
- 1787 Jan 6 Convicts transferred to the transport *Alexander* in Deptford
- Feb 19 *Alexander* leaves Downs for Spithead in Portsmouth
- Feb 22 *Alexander* arrives at the Spithead in Portsmouth
- Mar 11 Convicts transferred to the transport *Friendship* in Plymouth
- Mar 13 *Friendship* sails to Spithead in Portsmouth
- May 13 First Fleet (FF) departs Spithead in Portsmouth
- Jun 3-10 FF docked in Santa Cruz harbour, Island of Tenerife
- Aug 6 FF docks in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- Sep 4 FF departs Rio de Janeiro for Cape Town
- Oct 13 FF docks in Cape Town harbour

- Oct 27 Most females transferred from *Friendship* to *Prince of Wales*
- Nov 10 FF departs Cape Town for Botany Bay
- Nov 25 FF divides into fast and slow divisions, 250 nm from Cape Town
- 1788 Jan 3 *HMS Supply* in fast division sights Van Diemen's Land
- Jan 18 *HMS Supply* anchors in Botany Bay at 2:15 pm.
- Jan 19 Three more ships of the fast division arrive in Botany Bay
- Jan 20 Balance of the FF arrive in Botany Bay
- Jan 22-3 Phillip, Hunter sail to Port Jackson and find settlement site
- Jan 23 French ships *La Boussole* and *L'Astrolabe* arrive in Botany Bay
- Jan 25 FF set sail for Port Jackson but only *HMS Supply* leaves Botany Bay
- Jan 26 *HMS Supply* anchors in Port Jackson, FF arrives led by John Hunter
- Jan 26** NSW proclaimed British colony; Arthur Phillip 1st Governor
- Feb 6 Female convicts disembark in Sydney Cove, Anthony & Elizabeth meet
- Feb 14 *HMS Supply* with Lt. King sails to Norfolk Island
- May *Scarborough*, *Lady Penrhyn* and *Charlotte* depart Port Jackson
- Jul *Prince of Wales*, *Friendship*, *Alexander* and *Borrowdale* depart for England
- Oct 2 *HMS Sirius* sent to Cape Town for provisions
- Nov 2 Phillip and Alt sail up Parramatta River and locate Rose Hill area
- Nov 19 *Fishburn* and *Golden Grove* depart Port Jackson
- 1789 May 6 *HMS Sirius* returns from Cape Town with provisions
- Riots in Paris lead to **French Revolution**
- 1790 Mar 6 *HMS Sirius* and *HMS Supply* transport convicts & marines to Norfolk Is.
- Mar *HMS Sirius* wrecked on Norfolk Island coast
- Apr 17 *HMS Supply* sails for Batavia for supplies
- Jun 3 *Lady Juliana* of Second Fleet arrives
- Jun 10 *Neptune*, the *Surprize* and the *Scarborough* of Second Fleet
- Jun *HMS Gordon* arrives with rest of NSW Corps, with Lt. John Macarthur
- Aug Second Fleet ships depart
- Oct *HMS Supply* and *Waaksambeyd* return from Batavia with supplies